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JUNE - AUGUST 1997

EMANCIPATION DAY RELIVED IN THE OLD CAPITAL



President of Ghana and special guest for the Emancipation & Independence celebrations, Lt. Jerry John Rawlings, delivering his address of the function held to commemorate Emancipation Day in historic Spanish Town Square. The Square has been renamed Emancipation Square.

Spanish Town Square, the actual site where the Emancipation Proclamation was read by a representative of Queen Victoria, 159 years ago, buzzed with activity as scores of persons turned out on the night of July 31st, to witness the official ceremony to commemorate the restoration of Emancipation Day.

Dignitaries, including the Governor-General, His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Howard Cooke, Prime Minister P.J. Patterson and the President of the Republic of Ghana, Lt. Jerry Rawlings, participated in the Pre-Vigil Ceremony and Ecumenical Service. The balcony of the Old Court House formed the stage for the display of cultural activities depicting the wide variety of art forms inherited from our African ancestry.

These included bruckins', quadrille, mento and freedom songs. They were performed by local groups as well as visiting guests from the neighbouring Caribbean islands of Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago. In a special lighting presentation by the Urban Development Corporation (UDC), the brick walls of the court house were used as the surface for projecting the faces of the National Heroes. This, along with a colourful display using the Jamaican colours, formed part of the backdrop for the cultural performances.



Full-Free—Emancipation to Independence: 1838 –1962

This was the theme around which Emancipation Day (August 1) was returned to pride of place on the national calendar.

From Negril Point to Morant Point, Jamaicans with one accord greeted this historically significant day with thanksgiving and celebration. While our more mature citizens reminisced on pre-independence days, the younger ones were given glimpses of a bygone era.

The visit of President Rawlings from Ghana — ancestral home for many of us — capped the celebrations and allowed us to make that spiritual connection with Mother Africa.

It is said that *a picture is worth more than a thousand words*. In this issue we have employed this medium liberally, because there are so many activities to cover — Labour Day, the CARICOM/US Summit in Barbados, followed by the 18th Session of the CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting (over which Prime Minister Patterson presided), Emancipation and Independence Days, among others.

It is for this reason that we missed out on one issue of **Jamaica News**. Please forgive us. However, we are confident that you will be well pleased with this issue.

Tek care!

PRE-CARICOM SEMINARS

Prior to the 18th regular Meeting of the CARICOM Heads of Government in Montego Bay, Jamaica from June 30 to July 04, the Jamaica Information Service conducted a series of public education seminars in Western Jamaica.

Western Jamaicans were briefed on the then upcoming meeting and the major issues to be dis-

cussed. High schools, and community colleges, (including teachers), parish councils and chambers of commerce benefitted from these seminars.



Members of the Hanover Parish Council listen attentively as Celia Lindsay of the JIS (c) informs them of the issues to be discussed at the 18th Regular Meeting of the CARICOM Heads of Government. To her immediate left is Ms. Winsome Vanhorne, Manager of the JIS Regional Services

EMANCIPATION DAY REINSTATED

This year, for the first time since Independence in 1962, Jamaicans celebrated Emancipation Day on August 1, marking the abolition of slavery in Jamaica 159 years ago.

The reinstatement of Emancipation Day as a public holiday was announced by Prime Minister P.J. Patterson, following recommendations by the Committee on National Symbols and National Observances last year.

A National Emancipation Day Committee was established to co-ordinate celebrations. A Logo and the theme "Full Free: Emancipation to Independence 1838 to 1962" were selected.



COMMON LINK: Prime Minister P.J. Patterson and President of Ghana Flt. Lt. Jerry Rawlings shared the common heritage of African drumming with the "Mystic Revelations of Rastafari", at a reception held at Vale Royal recently.



Prime Minister Patterson was present when the President and First Lady of Ghana paid a courtesy call on Governor-General Sir Howard Cooke and Lady Cooke at King's House at the beginning of their recent state visit.



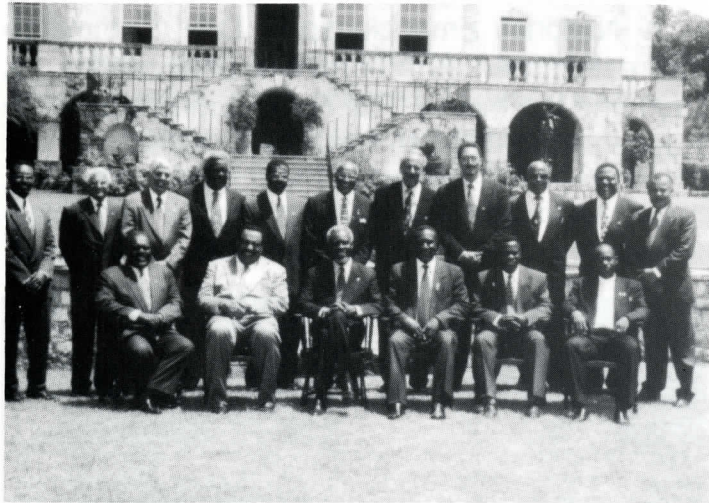
STRENGTHENING TIES: Prime Minister P.J. Patterson and President of Ghana Flt. Lt. Jerry Rawlings signed an agreement on economic and technical co-operation at a press briefing at Jamaica House recently.



Jamaica and Ghana — strengthening ties



CARICOM HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING



Chairman of Conference, Prime Minister P.J. Patterson (first row, 3rd left) and Mr. Edwin Carrington, Secretary General of CARICOM (to the Prime Minister's right) pose with other Heads of State/Government who attended the 18th CARICOM Meeting.

At the recent 18th Regular Meeting of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community held from June 30-July 4, a number of issues were discussed and some important agreements arrived at.

CARICOM SINGLE MARKET AND ECONOMY

The Community took significant steps towards the establishment of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy by the Year 1999.

In addition, the signing of Protocol I amending the Treaty of Chaguaramas to restructure the Organs and Institutions of the Community, has now been completed.

New ground has been broken with the signing of Protocol II by some Member States to

provide for the Right of Establishment, Provision of Services and Movement of Capital which constitute the central elements of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.

Heads of Government mandated the Secretariat and the Inter-Governmental Task Force to finalise the Protocols on Disadvantaged Countries, Regions and Sectors, Agricultural, Industrial and Trade

Policy in the Ninth Inter-Sessional Meeting, and the remaining Protocols on Dispute Settlement, Competition Policy and Transportation by the 19th Meeting of Conference.

Heads of Government with primary responsibilities for the various elements of the Caricom Single Market and Economy, have been mandated to ensure and facilitate the implementation of the requisite measures in a time-frame reflective of the 1999 target date.

REGIONAL NEGOTIATING MACHINERY

The Heads of Government received the first progress report on the activities of the Regional Negotiating Machinery established to coordinate the region's external negotiations. The priority areas of focus are the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), the non-economic initiatives of the Miami Summit, the World Trade Organisation and PostLome IV, ACP/EU negotiations.

Cont'd on pg. 6



Prime Minister Patterson, Haitian President René Preval and CARICOM delegates in one of the working sessions of the 18th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government at the Holiday Inn, Montego Bay.

REGIONAL AVIATION SYSTEM

Prime Minister P. J. Patterson has disclosed that the United States of America will be working closely with the Caribbean in instituting a Regional Aviation System which will set uniform standards by which airlines in the Caribbean will operate.

This is one aspect of the Bridgetown Declaration which was signed between CARICOM Heads of Government and the President of the U.S.A., Bill Clinton, at the USA/CARICOM meeting held in Barbados on May 10.

Turning to the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, Prime Minister Patterson



Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Heads of Government and President Bill Clinton posed for a photograph to commemorate the historic Summit between the United States and CARICOM held in Barbados recently.

said Caribbean countries must recognise the need to adjust their economies to be able to compete with the rest of the world.

Additionally, with the clear assurance from American Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, at a recent conference at the Carter Centre in Atlanta, it is hoped that the passage of CBI Enhancement will be expeditious.

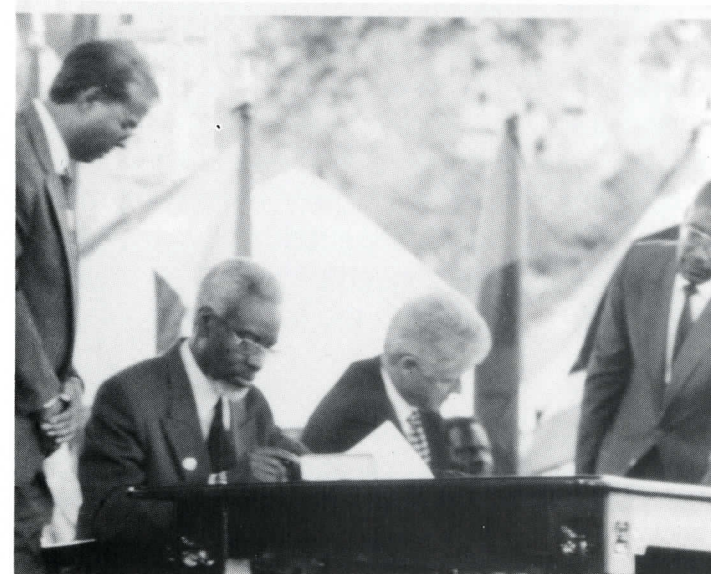
Mr. Patterson added that while the discussions in Bridgetown did not resolve the banana issue, the US President was

left with a clear understanding of the absolute importance which the Caribbean attaches to a resolution of this problem in a manner that is not injurious to the region.

On the matter of arms smuggling, the Prime Minister said precise measures of co-operation will take place between the security forces of the region in the exchange of information and the provision of adequate security at the ports in the U.S., from which most of the exports to the Caribbean originate, to ensure that they are not contaminated by arms.

Efforts are to be made within the Organisation of American States, perhaps in the form of a hemispheric treaty; as the aim is to have a seamless arrangement as exists in the fight against drug trafficking.

The question of Cuba was discussed and all the leaders of the Caribbean indicated to the US President that they regarded Cuba as a Caribbean country and wanted to see that country fully reintegrated in the hemispheric family. They indicated that they regarded the process of embargo and isolation as counter productive and they felt the time had come to make a positive change. An assurance was given that the rest of the Caribbean would do whatever it could to make this happen.



CARICOM Chairman Prime Minister Patterson of Jamaica and US President Bill Clinton sign the 'Bridgetown Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action' at the CARICOM/US Summit.



PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINS SHIPRIDER AGREEMENT

The Shiprider Agreement which Jamaica signed recently with the United States Government, reflects mutual respect and recognises the provisions of the Jamaican Constitution. It also removes blanket immunity in respect of US personnel taking action against a suspected vessel.

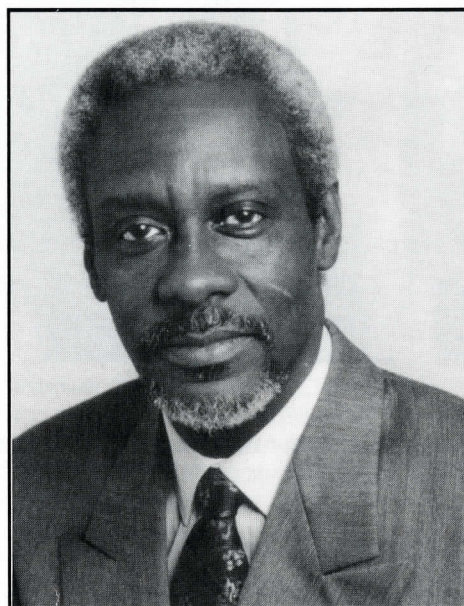
The Agreement will facilitate the suppression of maritime drug trafficking.

The Prime Minister said that he did not want anyone to be in any doubt that Jamaica, while favouring any agreement that would prevent

the illicit drug trafficking in "our state by land, sea, or air, nevertheless has certain fundamental principles which like the Americans ... we also hold dear, precious and inviolable".

Mr. Patterson said there were certain fundamental objectives on which the country had to be insistent. Firstly, Jamaica as a sovereign nation must enter in any agreement of this sort on the basis of equality and mutual respect. Secondly, Jamaica, like the United State has to respect its Constitution and Law.

Thirdly, there has to be the element of reciprocity. The same conditions which would apply to board a vessel carrying the Jamaican flag must also exist in respect to Jamaicans boarding a vessel carrying the American flag. Any search that is to take place in Jamaica's territorial space must not only be with "our prior consent and permission, but must be done within our Constitution and our law".



Prime Minister P.J. Patterson

CARICOM HEADS ...

Cont'd from pg. 4

They agreed on a number of measures for priority implementation, including the attainment of a 15 per cent enrolment of the post-secondary group in tertiary level education by the year 2005 and universal quality secondary education by the same target date.

To this end, the leaders agreed to the establishment of national machineries to monitor the implementation of respective national programmes.

In accordance with Article 29, Heads of Government agreed to admit Haiti to membership of the Community.

The Conference noted that the first meeting of the Council on Finance and Planning (COFAP) will be held in September 1997. This will be one of the first meetings under the new institutional arrangements introduced in Protocol I which was brought provisionally into effect with the signature of Montserrat. The Finance Ministers will be seeking to finalise the arrangements which are already advanced for the convertibility of the currencies with the floating exchange rates.

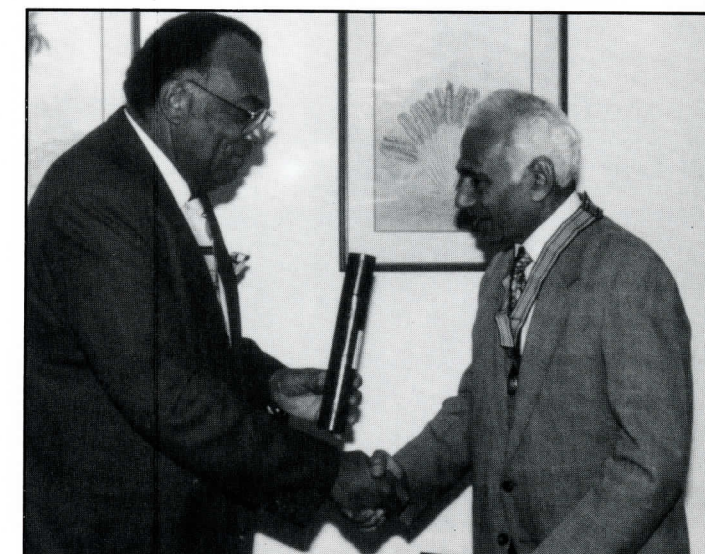
The conference also expressed strong support for the application of the OECS States for membership of the IDB. Heads have requested the Ministers of Finance to pursue the matter with urgency.

HERE AND THERE

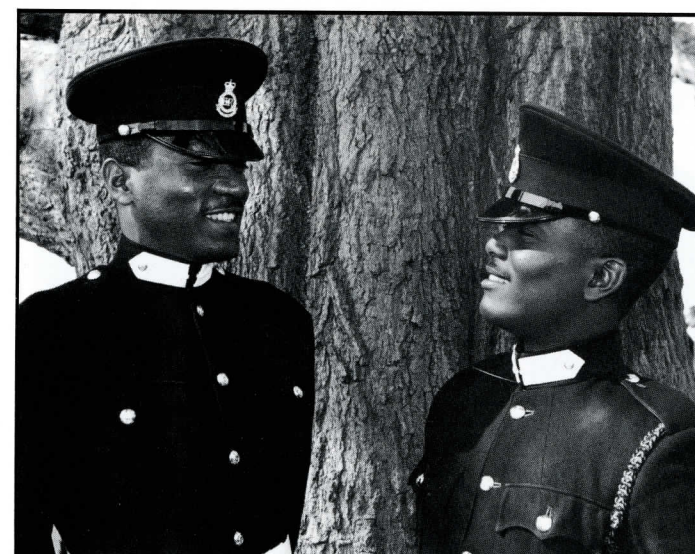
UK



AS PLEASED AS PUNCH: High Commissioner to the UK, His Excellency Derick Heaven, seems delighted with the award he has collected on behalf of reggae artiste Luciano. The singer was voted International Caribbean Artiste for 1996, by Caribbean World Magazine, a lifestyle and travel magazine published in the United Kingdom.



Professor George Sidrak is presented with one of Jamaica's National Honours, the Order of Distinction, Commander Class, by Jamaican High Commissioner to the UK, His Excellency Derick Heaven. Professor Sidrak served at the Mona campus of the University of the West Indies for 36 years, and was recognised by the Government for his contribution to scientific research.



AT EASE: Officer Cadets Richard daCosta (l) and Markland Lloyd seem to be comparing notes on the one-year training course they just completed at the Royal Military Academy in the UK. Both officers performed excellently on the course, winning prizes for academic performance.



THE MAESTRO & THE DIPLOMAT: Performer Beenie Man shares the camera spotlight with High Commissioner to the UK, His Excellency Derick Heaven at his London offices. Beenie Man and other Jamaican deejays paid a courtesy call on the High Commissioner during their recent European tour.



HERE AND THERE

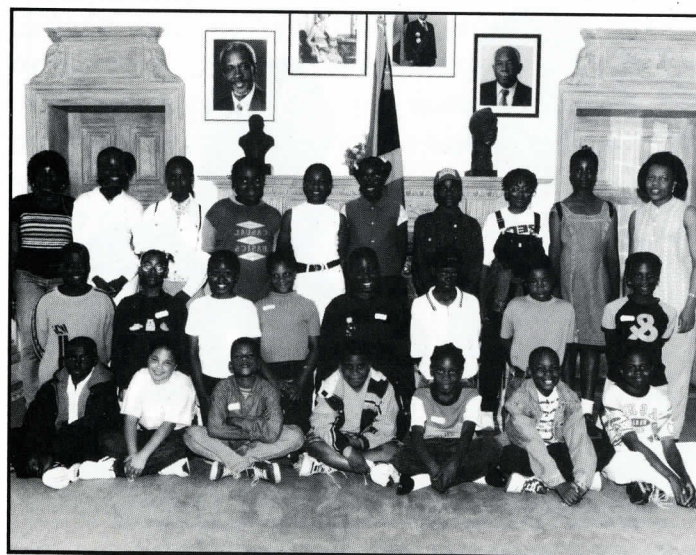
UK



UNIVERSITY SINGERS: The University Singers from the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies give a spirited performance of popular Jamaican folk song 'Solas Market' at a reception held at the Jamaican High Commission on Monday August 4, in recognition of Independence Day.



A BELLYFUL OF LAUGHS: These youngsters seem to be enjoying themselves as they watch a performance by some of the children in the JIS cultural workshop for children held on Emancipation Day, August 1. Over seventy children were treated to lessons in Jamaican history and culture, and demonstrations of traditional dance forms.



An animated group of youngsters pose with JIS Information Attache Lavern Reid (1st left, back row) and workshop coordinator Evelyn Chronicle (right, back row) after a cultural day held for them at the Jamaican High Commission in London on Emancipation Day, August 1.



The recent Jamaica Expo held at London's Olympia Exhibition Hall was supported by both music stars and government officials. Here Minister of Health, the Hon. Dr. Peter Phillips tries his hands at the drums while reggae superstar Freddie McGregor, Lord Taylor of Warwick (centre) and the Hon. Oliver Foote of Air Jamaica, look on.

HERE AND THERE

Canada



JAMAICA JAMBOREE: Mr. Audley Clarke (r) of the Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) receives a copy of the book **Great Jamaican Olympians** autographed by the writer Jimmy Carnegie. The occasion was the Canadian launch of the book at the offices of the Jamaican Consulate in Toronto as part of the festivities for the JTB's Jamaica Jamboree.



WOMEN FOR PACE: Dr. Rita Cox, Canadian Story Teller (r) receiving her plane ticket to Jamaica from President of PACE, Dr. Gloria Burke. Looking on are Jamaica's former Consul-General, Mrs. M. St. Juste (2nd Right) and founder and Past President of PACE, Dr. Mavis Burke. Dr. Cox conducted a series of workshops in Jamaica as part of 18th Anniversary of Women for PACE.

CANADIAN FINE FOOD SHOW: Former Consul General to Toronto Mrs. Margarietta St. Juste (r) and Trade Commissioner, Mrs. Cherita Girvan-Campbell, discuss Jamaican foods at the Canadian Fine Food Show held recently in Toronto, Canada.



HERE AND THERE

Canada



"KEEP THE FAITH CRAIG": More than 300 persons, including Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency Maxine Roberts, turned out for an event to raise funds for a bone marrow transplant for Craig Redwood. Shown are (l-r): Jamaica's Former Consul General to Toronto, Mrs. Margarietta St. Juste; Businesswoman, Mrs. Mary Long, Chairperson of the organising committee; Mr. Barry Bonitto, President of the National Council of Jamaicans and Supportive Organisations in Canada, and Craig's mother, Pat Redwood.



ACKEE & SALT FISH AT HARBOURFRONT: Jamaica's Former Consul General to Toronto, Mrs. Margarietta St. Juste was among a group of personalities invited to prepare and serve their favourite dish as part of activities for Black History Month put on by the Harbourfront Centre. The Consul General's favourite dish is popular with most Jamaicans — ackee and saltfish.



MAKING A POINT: Police Commissioner, Francis Forbes, making a point on crime fighting efforts in Jamaica to members of the audience who attended the community meeting in Boston where the Commissioner addressed the Caribbean Community recently.



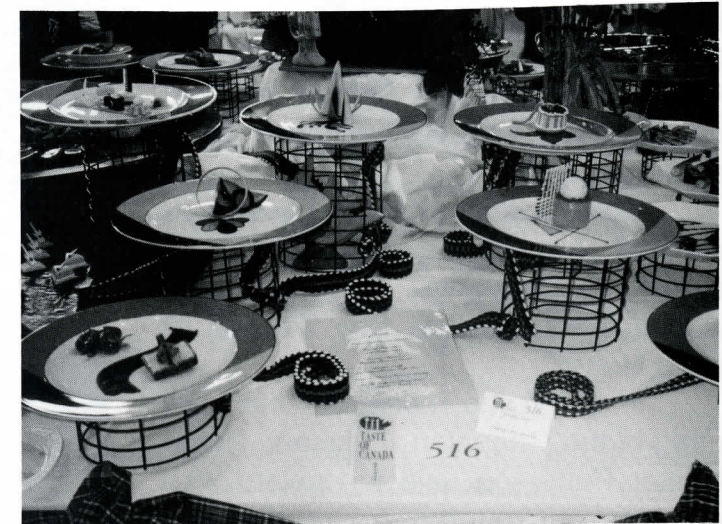
MEDIA APPRECIATION LUNCHEON: Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency Maxine Roberts (r), poses with two of the journalists who attended the annual Media Appreciation Luncheon hosted by the Consulate and JIS. Seated is Jamaican-born Phillip Mascoll, a reporter with the Toronto Star for 16 years and standing is Cecil Foster, host of "Urban Talk" on CFRB-Radio in Toronto.

HERE AND THERE

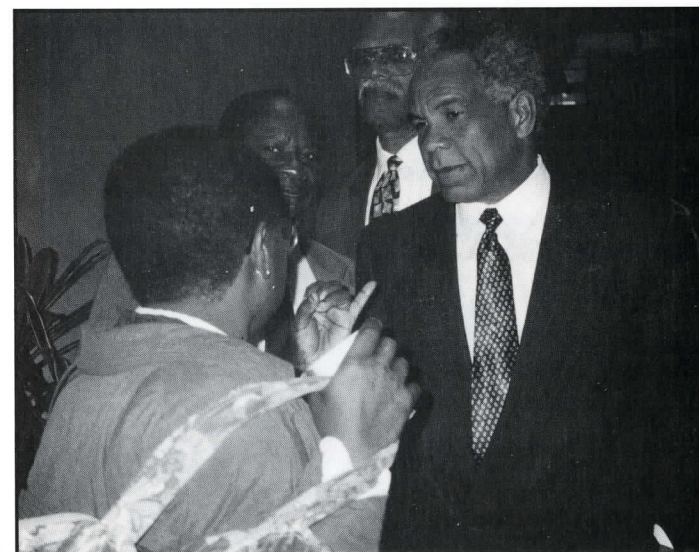
Canada



GREAT CHEFS: Some of the Jamaican chefs who participated in the recent International Culinary Competition are seen here with Mr Brian Cooper (3rd from right), Dean of George Brown College's Hospitality Department. From l-r Karlene Stewart and Daniel East of Half Moon Hotel; Frederick Gayle of Seawind Hotel; Dean Cooper; Coach Jose Requilme, Executive Chef at Sandals Negril and Coach Ray Clarke, Executive Chef at Sandals MoBay.



MOUTH-WATERING DELIGHTS: Prize-winning pastries from Anthony Cope of Swept Away Resort on display at the Recent International Culinary Competition.



MEETING WITH JAMAICANS IN TORONTO: Ms. Norma Edwards (l), of the Alliance of Jamaican Alumni Associations, talking with Minister of Finance and Planning, the Hon. Dr. Omar Davies, following a meeting between the Minister and Jamaican/Canadians in Toronto. Also pictured are Dr. Owen Jefferson of the Bank of Jamaica (2nd right) and Mr Alton Telfer, 2nd Vice-President of the Jamaican Canadian Association.



COMMUNITY FAREWELL: During a community farewell held in her honour, Consul General for Toronto, Mrs. Margarietta St. Juste (r) presents a cheque to Mrs. Pat Williams, Chairperson of the Jamaican Canadian Association's (JCA) Building Fund. The JCA, formed the same year as Jamaica's Independence, is on a drive to renovate its newly acquired building.



PRESIDENT RAWLINGS RECEIVES AN O.J.

During his visit to Jamaica, President of the Republic of Ghana, Flt. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings, was conferred with the Order of Jamaica, the highest national honour which can be bestowed on a non-Jamaican.

Governor-General, His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Howard Cooke, presented the insignia at a colourful National Independence Day Parade at King's House.

In giving the reason for the honouring of the Ghanaian President, Prime Minister Patterson said the award was "as a symbol of our respect, (and) we do so as a pillar of the bridge we have pledged to build as free and sovereign nations".



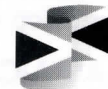
Prime Minister Patterson looks on as the Governor-General presents Flt. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings of Ghana with his insignia of the Order of Jamaica.



Prime Minister Patterson reads the lesson at a church service in Montego Bay to open the 18th Regular Meeting of CARICOM Heads of Government.



FIRST CLASS: During his visit to the "Denbigh Show '97" over the Independence weekend, President Rawlings expressed admiration for the high standard of Jamaican goods and produce on display.



PRIME MINISTER VISITS CUBA



Jamaica has taken steps to deepen its bilateral relationship with Cuba. Here, the leaders of both countries, P.J. Patterson and Fidel Castro, stand together.

A Jamaican Embassy is to be established in Havana, effective September 1, 1997. The country is currently repre-

sented in Cuba by a Consul-General.

Mr. Patterson made the announcement recently at an official ceremony at which he was presented with the Order of José Martí, the highest award given in the Republic of Cuba. He said the time had come for Jamaica to have a diplomatic presence in Cuba to increase co-operation in functional areas, break down cultural and linguistic barriers and create openings for trade and investment.

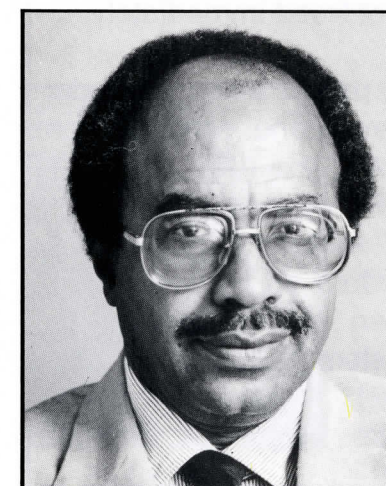
The Prime Minister pointed out that the entire world was taking notice of the significant economic changes which had occurred in Cuba, adding

that it was for this reason that Jamaica was moving toward the setting up of appropriate legal and financial arrangements, as well as providing additional transportation services to facilitate trade.

He explained that the deepening of bilateral relations between both countries was important in light of the development of the region and the future of the hemisphere.

Jamaica is prepared to give full support to ensure Cuba's reintegration within the hemispheric system, and as fellow non-aligned countries, Jamaica and Cuba should seek to shape the international environment to achieve justice, equality and the rule of law in the international system.

DUNKLEY NAMED JAMAICA'S AMBASSADOR TO CUBA



Ambassador Carlyle Dunkley

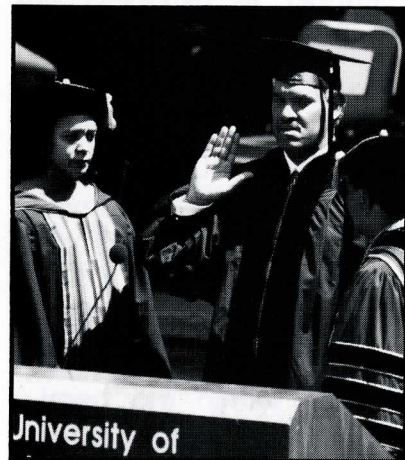
Carlyle Dunkley, Jamaica's Ambassador to CARICOM and Special Envoy to the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), has been appointed Ambassador Extraordinaire and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Cuba.

A history graduate of the University of the West Indies (UWI), Ambassador Dunkley has served Jamaica and the Caribbean for more than 30 years. A former lecturer in Human Resource Development at the UWI, Ambassador Dunkley has served as a Member of Parliament, Senator, as President of the National Workers' Union (NWU) and Vice-President of the Caribbean Congress of Labour.

It was announced recently that the insignia of the Order of Jamaica will be conferred on him on National Heroes Day in October.

EDUCATION

JAMAICAN CONFERRED WITH DOCTOR OF LAWS IN UNITED STATES



Mr. Jeffrey Earl Thompson, a Jamaican Certified Public Accountant, who has distinguished himself as founder and CEO of one of the 25 top accounting firms in the United States, has been conferred with the Honorary Doctor of Laws by the

University of the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C.

He is the founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of Thompson, Cobb, Bazilio and Associates, P.C., one of the largest African-American-owned public accounting and consulting firms in the United States.

EDUCATION

MORE CARIBBEAN NATIONALS TO STUDY IN UNITED STATES

More Caribbean nationals may soon be able to study in the United States, as Caribbean Heads and Washington have agreed to increase the opportunities for qualified individuals from the region to study at universities and military service academies in the U.S.A.

The agreement, set out in the Bridgetown Declaration of Principles signed by Caribbean Heads and United States President, Bill Clinton, at their May 10 Summit in Barbados, also speaks to short-term training for Caribbean nationals in the United States or Third World countries.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MADGE BARRETT MADE AMBASSADOR

Director of Protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Madge Barrett, has been elevated to the position of Ambassador, Special Envoy of Jamaica.

In 1964 Mrs. Barrett worked at the Jamaican Mission in Washington as an attache, was posted to Miami as Consul General in 1991. She returned to Jamaica in 1994 where she took up the post as Director of Protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.



Did You Know?

That Emancipation means freedom from a situation of bonding e.g. slavery and that on the first of August 1834 all slaves in Jamaica were declared legally free?

However, although the institution of slavery was abolished by the Act, most of the former slaves were not freed immediately.

An Apprenticeship period intervened, during which time slaves and planters were supposed to adjust to the new social and economic order. However, this period was unsuccessful and failed to prepare the slaves for full freedom as intended. The decision was then taken to end the Apprenticeship System in 1838, two years earlier than planned. All slaves were now fully free effective August 1, 1838 — Emancipation Day.

CULTURE

MS. LOU GETS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN TORONTO

Jamaica's Ambassador of Culture, the Hon. Louise Bennett-Coverley (Ms. Lou) has become the first recipient of the "We Are One Theatre Production's Award of Excellence in recognition of her outstanding contributions to cultural life.

Marvin Ishmael, Artistic Director of the oldest Caribbean theatre company in Toronto which is dedicated to promoting racial harmony through theatre, said the award will be given each year to a Caribbean person who has made significant contributions to the upliftment of the region.

Held under the patronage of Jamaica's Former Consul

General to Toronto, Mrs. Margarietta St. Juste, more than 800 persons attended the inaugural show.



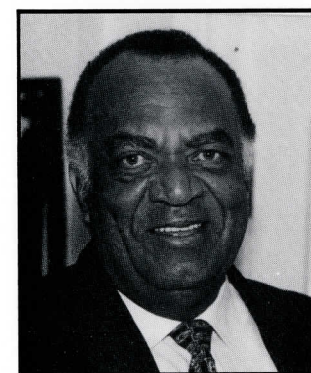
At the function held recently, Ms. Lou was also presented with the "Best of Kingston" Award from the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association (JHTA) Kingston Chapter. Shown here are from left, Oliver Samuels who hosted the programme; Ms. Marcia Erskine, Publicist for JHTA; Ms. Lou; Mrs. Gloria Moody, Chairman of JHTA Kingston Chapter Charity Ball and Marvin Ishmael of We Are One Theatre.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

HIGH COMMISSIONER HEAVEN RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF CFTC

His Excellency Derick Heaven, High Commissioner to the UK, was unanimously re-elected as chairman of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC) at the annual general meeting of that body held in London recently.

The CFTC is the arm of the Commonwealth which extends technical assistance to its 54 member countries. Its commitment and expenditure to Jamaica has amounted to over £55,000 for the year 1996/7, covering areas such as agro-industrial waste management, dairy industry development and training courses in a variety of areas including computer software planning and tourism development.



His Excellency Derick Heaven

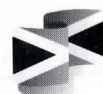
EDUCATION

JAMAICAN STUDENT WINS COMMONWEALTH PRIZE

Thirteen year-old Christopher Coore of Wolmer's Boys' School won the Special Prize awarded by the Royal Commonwealth Essay Competition for schools.

Christopher's entry on the topic, "An Eventful Day in My Family", in which he told the story of a memorable concert at which he performed, was recognised by the examiners as 'an excellent and well-observed account of an exciting day'.

Christopher's entry took one of the top prizes out of 4,500 submissions received by the society. Over 850 schools throughout the Commonwealth participated in this year's competition.



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If you have a friend or relative who might be interested in receiving copies, do ask them to write/telephone/e-mail or fax us at:

- **Toronto**

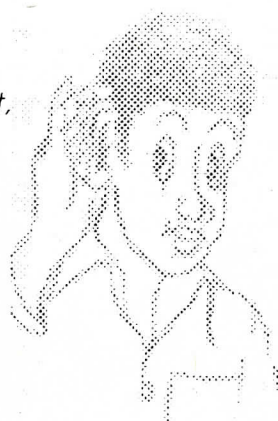
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NOTICE

**As of 1998, Independence Day will be observed on August 6,
the date Jamaica gained Independence from Britain in 1962.**

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